

United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Washington, D.C. 20240 http://www.blm.gov



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Dear Reader,

Enclosed for your review and comment is the *Final Vegetation Treatments Using Aminopyralid, Fluroxypyr, and Rimsulfuron on Bureau of Land Management Lands in 17 Western States Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (PEIS). This document contains the assessment, at a national scale, of the use of the active ingredients aminopyralid, fluroxypyr, and rimsulfuron in Bureau of Land Management (BLM) vegetation treatments on public lands in the western United States, including Alaska.

The draft PEIS was released on June 19, 2015, for which the public comment period closed on August 3, 2015. The BLM received a total of 98 comments on the draft PEIS. The enclosed final PEIS addresses each of those comments through either a comment response, or changes in the analysis or supporting documentation.

The final PEIS assesses 3 alternative approaches to the use of aminopyralid, fluroxypyr, and/or rimsulfuron to treat vegetation on public lands, as well as a "No Action" alternative that considers the continued use of 18 previously approved herbicides. The final PEIS details the expected impacts and benefits from the BLM's use of herbicides, and provides analysis to determine which herbicides should be approved for use.

The Final PEIS and associated documents will be available for public inspection at all BLM State, District, and Field office public rooms. You can also review or download the document from the BLM website at http://blm.gov/3vkd. The BLM will not issue a final decision on the proposal until at least 30 days after the date that the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. A Record of Decision will then be issued, or a supplemental analysis will be undertaken to address any significant information not previously considered within the scope of analysis contained in the Final PEIS.

For further information, please contact Gina Ramos, PEIS Project Manager, at (202) 912-7226. She can also be reached by email at blm_wo_vegeis@blm.gov, by fax via (202) 623-3793, or by mail at 1849 C Street NW (Rm 2134 LM, WO-220), Washington, DC 20240.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Tupper

Acting Assistant Director

Resources and Planning

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